Allandale Neighbor

February 2020
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Allandale Neighborhood Association
and **Allandale Neighbors**

see
It's My Park Day
flyer on page 21

March 3rd is Joint Primary Election Day!

Janis Reinken, Precinct 239 Democratic Election Judge at Gullett Elementary

Hello Neighbors,
Tuesday, March 3 is Joint Primary Election Day in Texas! Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. Eligible Travis County voters may go to any Travis County polling location, since all sites are vote centers; look for the VOTE HERE signs. For instance, you may choose a location close to home or near your workplace, or a site that is more convenient.

Two-party primary: For the joint primary election, voters will declare if they are voting in the Democratic primary or Republican primary in order to receive the correct ballot for the voter's party of

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Allandale's Mr. Postman

Faye Holland

One of our Allandale postal carriers, Darrell Rickman, is retiring on March 31, after 24 1/2 years. As of February 1, he has been working for the United States Postal Service for 34 years. At age 62, he has decided that he is ready to retire. After retirement, Darrell is most worried about how he is going to get enough exercise, because he is used to walking nine miles every day with his #5780 route. Maybe he will join a gym, travel, or go dirt bicycling with his wife. He has worked out that he has walked over 100,000 miles. After the heat of last summer, he decided that this spring was the time to retire. His retired schoolteacher wife has been ready for years for him to retire. She is ready to go on a cruise with him to Hawaii.

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Wildflowers coming to Allandale's Davis Family Cemetery

Jack Kern

As I write this brief article, the long "out of service" cemetery that has no owners and is located on Vine Street, between Twin Oaks Drive and Cavileer Avenue, looks as nice as it has in the 44

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Remembering Another Allandale Legend: Phil Durst

Allan McMurtry

Phil Durst, a lawyer and collage artist, died on October 1, 2019, at age 62. Phil was the only child of Joseph

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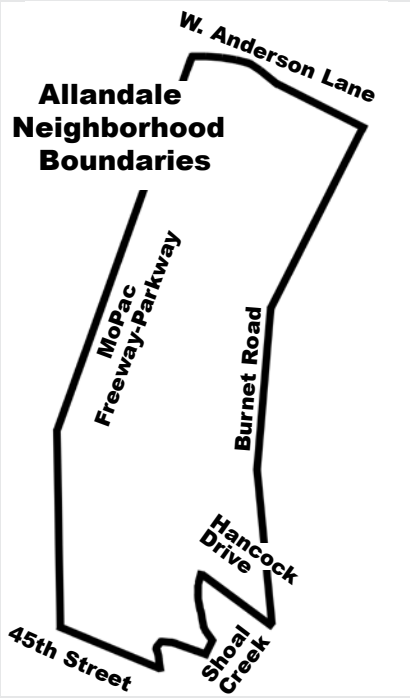

President's Letter

Diana Wheeler, ANA President, (512) 699-1848, Allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com

Hello neighbors,

This year, the ANA Board wants to focus on activities that build community, and events that get people together in public spaces. We know that people can have different opinions and still all want what's best for the neighborhood -- and by facilitating interaction, we foster our shared sense of community.

To that end, please come out to support It's My Park Day on March 7, an Allandale Egg hunt on April 4 in Northwest District Park, Keep Austin Beautiful on April 18, the annual July 4th parade, and National Night Out (which block captains will help organize on various streets).

In future newsletters, I'll be introducing my fellow ANA Board members so that you all can get a better sense of who your board is and why we are volunteering in this capacity.

Sincerely,
Diana
Keep Austin Beautiful on April 18 ⌘

Wildflowers coming to Allandale's Davis Family Cemetery

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

years since June 1976, when my wife, Paulette, and I purchased our adjoining home on Twin Oaks Drive. That is because Bart Sherman's Allandale Lawn and Landscape once again mowed and trimmed the grounds this week, as a continued gift to Allandale.

Shout-outs are due also to Scout Troop 2019 and numerous neighborhood volunteers who have worked countless hours on clearing the cemetery to get it into its current condition, in which it can periodically be mowed and trimmed.

And soon, courtesy of Troop 2019 and Allandale neighbor Jimmy Hendricks, the cemetery will be blessed with wildflowers in the sunny northeast and southwest corners.

For information about upcoming cemetery workdays or to volunteer to bring your chainsaw to help take out some larger dead and invasive trees, please contact Paulette Kern at paulettekern@sbcglobal.net.

For links to much more historical information about the George W. Davis Private Family Cemetery, please contact Jack Kern at davisfamilycemetery@gmail.com. ⌘

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS!

To subscribe to our online discussion group, send an e-mail to:
allandale-neighborhood-austin+subscribe@groups.io
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The *Allandale Neighbor* is published and distributed bimonthly by the ANA. Contact our ad coordinator at 512-348-8237 or *allandaleneighbor@gmail.com* for more information.

Your Ad	Size	One time rate
Full Page	7½ x 9¾"	$320
1/2 Page	7½ x 5	$225
1/4 Page	3⅝ x 4½	$116
Business Card	3⅝ x 2	$72

We prefer digital files, at least 300 pixels (TIFF or PDF best). We can create or alter your ad for a nominal charge. For an additional $60 we will create an online ad to place on the Allandale web site: *www.allandaleneighbor.com.*

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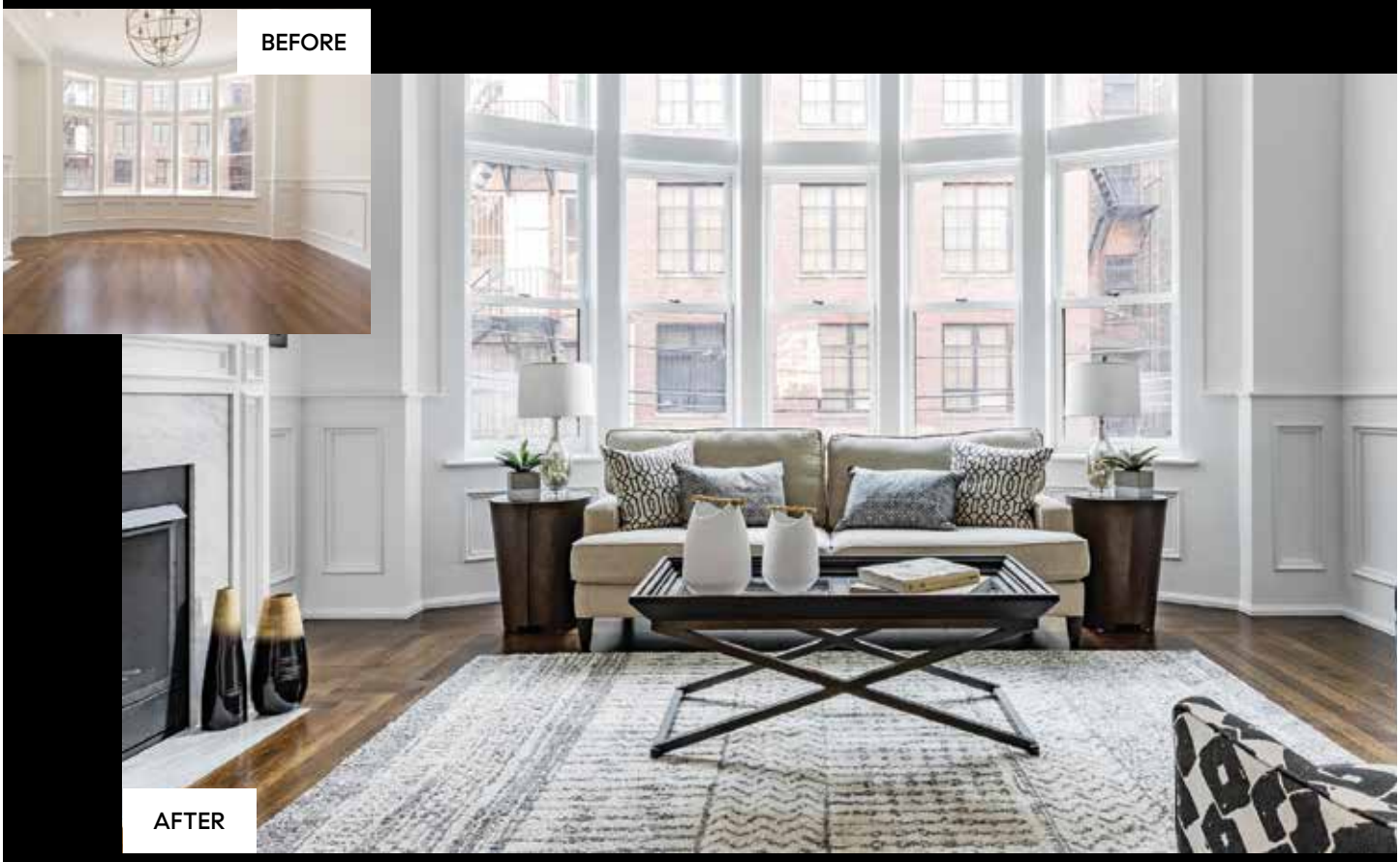

Compass Concierge will cover the upfront cost of home-improvement projects to get your home ready to put on the market! No hidden fees, no interest—ever. Jason is a long-time Allandale resident and knows the neighborhood well. Give him a call if you are thinking about selling your home.

Allandale Resident

Jason Heffron
Broker Associate
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512.658.8822
jason.heffron@compass.com

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Jason Heffron is a real estate agent affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by federal, state and local laws. Equal Housing Opportunity.

March 3rd is Joint Primary Election Day!

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choice. Unlike the general election coming in November, the primary election ballots do not provide for "mix and match" voting or a split ballot; they are designed for the specific party's ballot.

Election Day: In the Allandale area we will have several voting locations on March 3. At Gullett Elementary, we will vote in the gym; please enter through the gym rather than other school entrances. Other nearby locations are Ben Hur Shrine Center at Rockwood Lane and Foster Lane, the Northwest Recreation Center on Northland Drive at Marilyn Drive, the North Village Branch Library on Steck Avenue west of Burnet Road, and at McCallum High School on Sunshine Drive. See a list of polling sites for Election Day at *https://countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/images/pdfs/polling_locations/pdf_tc_elections_20200303_P20_ED_sites_flyer.pdf.*

Early voting runs from February 18 – 28. A nearby location for Allandale residents is the Ben Hur Shrine Center. Some other sites are the Howson Branch Library on Exposition Boulevard, or at ACC Highland, Fiesta Mart at 38th Street and IH-35. In Travis County, a list of early voting locations and hours can be found at *https://countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/images/pdfs/polling_locations/pdf_tc_elections_20200303_P20_EV_sites_flyer.pdf*

Ballot by mail applications: Friday, February 21, 2020 is the deadline for Travis County to receive a ballot by mail application for March 3rd: for details, see *https://countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/elections/ballot-by-mail.html.*

Registration: In general, for early voting in Travis County as well as for March 3, you need to be registered here. Check *https://www.votetravis.com/vexpress/display.do* to confirm your registration. Avoid confusion ahead of time by calling Travis County at (512) 854-9473 for special needs or eligibility questions, voter registration functions, voter registration records, and district maps. For voting in other counties, check for county-specific info to find a site. If you missed the February 3 deadline to register to vote on March 3, there is still time to register for voting in local elections on May 2, the primary runoff (if required) on May 26, and for the November general election.

Identification: Remember to bring your photo ID or approved alternative ID. This site offers details about the type of ID proof to bring: *https://countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/elections/new-voter-id-requirements-for-texas-voters.html.* Most persons bring their driver license. Although not required, it may help to bring your voter registration card also, as it contains information not shown on your driver license, which may prove useful to election personnel and save you some time.

Voting: If you have not experienced the new Travis County voting equipment, the former equipment has been replaced with iPads for check-in and new touch-screen electronic devices for voting. At check-in, you will receive a paper ballot to insert in a machine that will mark your choices electronically. When you're done, you will double-check and print it, then deposit it into a secured box. These paper ballots serve as a confirmation of the electronic data collected. The printed ballots and data will be delivered securely to the County. The printed ballot does NOT leave the voting site with you. Help from election personnel is available if you need it, so please feel free to ask!

Be prepared: You can bring your own written notes to the ballot box. Travis County plans to provide sample paper ballots that you can study and mark with your own notes. The League of Women Voters will soon publish the March primary election guide online at *https://lwvaustin.org/voter-guide/.* REMEMBER, state law does NOT allow use of mobile electronic devices in the polling place (unless an exception applies). So, it will not help to store your voting notes in your phone or electronic device. Paper YES, phone NO. In general, this is to help protect the privacy of ALL persons in the polling place. So please plan ahead for this!

Here's a link for answers to other voting questions: *https://countyclerk.traviscountytx.gov/elections/current-election.html* (watch for updates to this site).

Remember, the right and the power to vote is the bedrock of our democracy, and the people who vote are the ones who determine the results. Don't let the parade pass you by!

Ballots, Voting, and Polling Places
Travis County Clerk Elections
www.traviscountyelections.org
512-238-VOTE (8683)
elections@traviscountytx.gov

Voter Registration, Maps, and Districts
Travis County Tax Office Voter Registration
www.traviscountytax.org
512-854-9473
taxvoters@traviscountytx.gov ⌘

Allandale's Mr. Postman

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Darrell started working in Victoria, Texas, and moved to Austin in 1989, hoping the length of time to become a full-time carrier would be shorter. It took another four years to become a full-time carrier. Later, he was a manager for the Balcones Post Office for six months, but decided that he liked having a route better, because it was less stressful. Being a postal carrier has become more stressful over the years. He now carries a GPS scanner for packages, and the office can track him throughout the day, leaving him less time to visit. There are also many more packages now. Amazon used the Postal Service in the beginning to try out their business model, and after they saw that it worked well, they began their own delivery service. The USPS continues to deliver more packages, because it has found that there is a bigger profit in package delivery. Darrell also was able to help people more before the scanner days (more on that later). Darrell gets 30 minutes for lunch and he eats wherever he is around noon. He doesn't eat fast, so he doesn't eat a lot.

Darrell had to bid twice to get on the Allandale route. He was excited about this route because it was a quiet neighborhood and it had numerous shade trees. He said that all dogs have been well behaved throughout his years in Allandale except for one basset hound. The owner, an intoxicated twenty-something, threatened

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Allandale's Mr. Postman

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

to hit Darrell after he had to spray the dog. Darrell had to turn him into the police, and they probably paid him a visit. The next day the man was super apologetic, and there was never another issue.

The only other animal issue he has had was with "Dee Dee the Deranged Dove," who was protecting her nest on White Rock Drive. He had to shoo her away with his hat when she attacked.

He loves remembering people from his routes. One of his favorites was Mr. Jessie Ward, a retired WWII soldier who passed away 15 years ago. One time, Jessie was staring at a new television he had bought and was wondering how he was going to get it in the house. Darrell helped him move it into the house and he even hooked it up for him.

When Darrell used to deliver to Shoal Creek Boulevard about eight or nine years ago, he helped a woman get into her home after she locked her keys in her house with her toddler. After many questions and requests from the owner, he broke a window with a brick, cleared the glass out of the window, got inside the house, picked up the toddler, and brought the child to the mom without ever setting his bag down.

A few Christmas Eves ago, he was delivering mail until 10:30 at night, just because he wanted to make sure everyone got their Christmas mail. On December 26th, a woman in a house on Bullard Drive chased him down and thanked him for delivering so late because one of the last packages he delivered was an important present for her son.

Darrell has loved the little recognitions he has received from people over the years. He was always thankful for the Christmas cards or the bags of pecans. He also used to carry dog treats with him. Darrell was always a favorite of my old dog, Peyton. The Postal Service frowned upon this practice, so he was sad he had to stop.

Darrell is going to really miss seeing all of the people in the neighborhood when he retires. If it was a more relaxed job, like it used to be, he would stay a little bit longer. He always feels stressed for time now. He is looking forward to spending more time with his wife and three dogs. His favorite line for her is, "They would not allow a man like me in a place like this without a girl like you." I think that Hawaiian cruise will be ready for him. ⌘

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS!

To subscribe to our online discussion group, send an e-mail to: allandale-neighborhood-austin+subscribe@groups.io with "subscribe" as the subject.

URBAN COYOTES

They're active from dusk to dawn. They'll eat just about anything: cat & dog food that people leave outside, scraps from open compost piles & trash bins, rodents, and, sadly, small pets if they are easy to get to.

As land is developed and the natural environment shrinks, coyotes adapt to a smaller territory, making contact with people more likely—and frightening. There is no such thing as coyote relocation—when they are trapped, they are euthanized. But we can coexist with coyotes and other predators (foxes, hawks, owls, raccoons) that feed on birds and small mammals.

Be extra vigilant if you walk very early in the morning or after dark. It's natural to freeze when encountering a coyote. Instead, practice hazing so coyotes don't become comfortable around people.

BEST PRACTICES TO AVOID & MANAGE COYOTE INTERACTIONS

SECURE ENVIRONMENT TO PROTECT PETS

- Keep pets indoors & accompany them outdoors
- Walk pets on a 4-6 ft. leash
- Provide secure shelter for rabbits & chickens
- Regularly pick up nuts & fruit under trees
- Securely cover compost piles & trash bins
- Eliminate accessible water sources

HAZING TO SCARE COYOTES AWAY

- Make eye contact with the coyote
- Loom large—wave your arms around
- Make noise—bang things, shout, blow a whistle
- Toss pebbles or small sticks
- Slowly back away
- Call 311 to report the sighting & location

Remembering Another Allandale Legend: Phil Durst

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Durst and Barbara Unger Durst. He was born on November 7, 1956, in New York City. After his mother's death, Phil and his father moved to Los Angeles and eventually Houston, where Phil graduated from Bellaire High School and the University of Houston. In both high school and college, Phil was a fierce interscholastic debater. (Oddly, Phil could never win a debate with his children.)

Phil graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1982. He started his legal career as an assistant Texas attorney general and eventually started a firm with his mentor, David Richards, and his friend Patrick Wiseman. For the past several decades, Phil practiced civil rights and employment law with his friend Martha Owen, most recently as part of the firm Deats, Durst & Owen. For many years, Phil was an adjunct professor at the UT School of Law. His amazing assistant, Gwen Shaw, has been by his side throughout his career.

Phil loved movies and the movie experience. He saw everything, regardless of quality or genre. When he wasn't at the movies, he could be found at Dart Bowl. He once took two days off work to try to beat his son's high score. (He succeeded.) Phil and Sarah Woelk, also a lawyer, were married for 34 years and had two children, Emma and Eli. Phil often referred to Sarah as his "long-suffering" wife, but their home was full of love and laughter (and groans when Phil workshopped his jokes). Phil was happy to have lived long enough to see the Astros win the World Series and to see the (disappointing) end of Game of Thrones.

Phil is survived by his wife, Sarah Woelk, his daughter Emma Woelk and her husband, Shawn Terryah, his son Eli Durst and Eli's wife Colombina Valera, and his granddaughter, Maren.

Among all of Philip's work, he and David Frederick managed to find time to take on the State of Texas Highway Department. They sued CAMPO over violations of the Open Meetings Act in 1985, in a lawsuit against the Austin Transportation Study's Koenig Lane freeway and the outer loop over the Barton Creek Recharge Zone. The suit went from Austin to the Texas Supreme Court, as Phil and David ultimately won at the Court of Appeals and the Texas Supreme Court. The suit forced CAMPO to put the Koenig Lane freeway in abeyance for the duration. By that time, wiser heads prevailed and the Koenig Lane freeway was taken out of the plan, and its funds were used for other roads carrying much more traffic. The damage to Allandale and Brentwood would have been immense. The suit was filed in part by Austin Crossroads, an organization made up of people in Allandale, Brentwood, and Crestview. Allandale owes Phil and David a tremendous debt of gratitude for the work done on our behalf. Further information on the Koenig Lane freeway can be found on the ANA website. ⌘

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or 512-348-8237.

Lettuce Recycle: What's In Your Trash Can???

Dena Houston

Even though most of us try hard to compost and recycle, there are still items that need to go into our trash cans and ultimately into the landfill.

Below is a list of some of the items that go into the trash can. The items in this list cannot be recycled or composted in the Austin market.

- AC filters
- Animal waste
- Antibacterial wipes
- Broken glass
- Candy wrappers
- Cellophane
- CD jewel cases
- Chip bags
- Dirty aluminum foil
- Dryer sheets
- Food pouches
- Garden hoses
- Guitar strings
- Ice cream cartons (paper)
- Incandescent light bulbs
- Juice boxes
- Paper coffee cups
- Plastic bags – Bags for certain products, such as dog food, soil, fertilizer, and compost, are designed to hold weight. They are not recyclable at the plastic bag collection bins at the grocery store. Frozen food and salad mix bags are treated with certain polymers to keep the food fresh. They also must go into the trash.
- Plastic bottles without a recycling symbol.
- Plastic straws and plastic utensils
- Plastic wrap – Saran Wrap, Press-and-Seal
- Tetra paks
- Wire coat hangers (if in good condition, can be reused by dry cleaners)

Below is a "cheat sheet" for recycling. It doesn't address all recycling questions but it helps provide a basic understanding of what can and cannot go into the blue curbside bin:

Recycling Cheat Sheet for the Blue Bin

1. Nothing smaller than a credit card.
2. No mixed materials (no plastic soap pump with metal spring, no candy wrappers, no orange juice cartons, no paper coffee cups).
3. No contaminated paper products (no wet paper [even if dried out], no pizza boxes, no food product on paper).
4. Nothing that can wrap around sorting machinery or that poses a danger at the recycling facility (no plastic bags, wire coat hangers, rope, garden hoses, hypodermic needles, or aerosol cans with anything in them). Empty aerosol cans DO go into the blue bin.
5. Lid rules – All glass jars need to have their lids removed. Keep all plastic lids on plastic bottles and containers. All separate lids smaller than a credit card go into the trash. All separate lids larger than a credit card go into the blue bin.

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Here is a very informative City of Austin recycling website:
http://www.austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do.

Stay tuned for future tips that will include creative ways to recycle or reuse. If you have any questions or recycling ideas, please send them to: recycling@hpwbana.org. ⌘

Allandale Outside - Gecko Garden

Faye Holland

Andrea Hinsdale

You may have noticed the evolution of the fenced-in garden in front of Gullett Elementary the past few years. Andrea Hinsdale is the person behind its recent transformation. The garden was originally established through a partnership with the meal delivery business, Lettuce, back in the 2017 - 2018 school year. The company had to abandon the garden because of logistical and monetary reasons. Andrea, an avid school gardener and Gullett parent gardener, saw a great opportunity for Gullett's students.

Andrea worked with the district to make the garden an official produce provider for the school cafeteria line. As such, the garden harvest needs to happen by 9:30 a.m. for the vegetables to make the students' trays, and AISD-approved school-to-farm containers must be used for harvesting. The cafeteria uses the food for the veggie dipper trays. All of the harvested food must be served raw because the cafeteria workers will not cook the produce, since they can't plan for the harvested amounts.

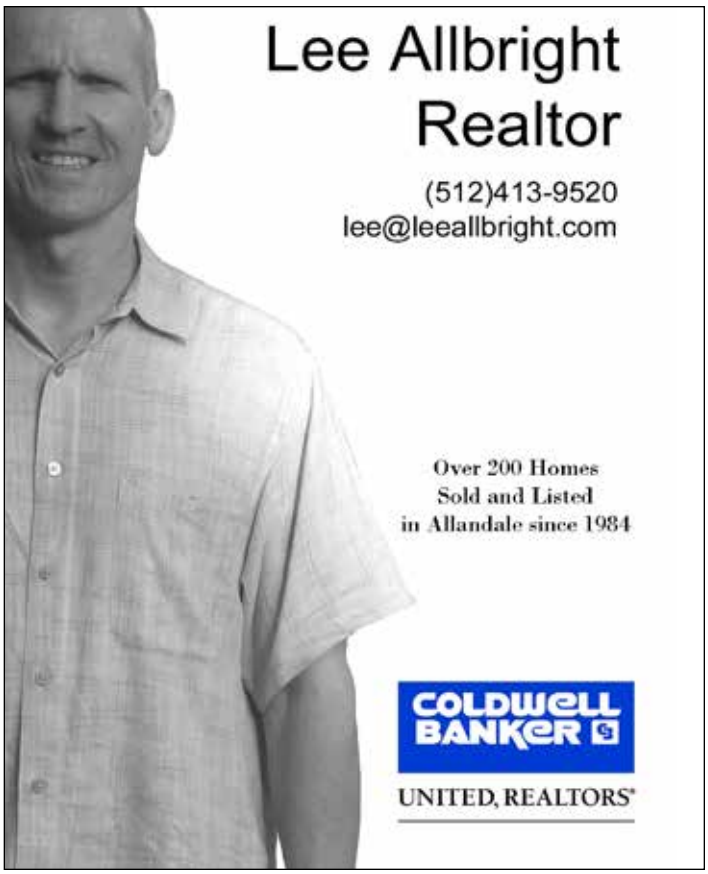
This spring, Andrea is taking out some of the herbs and the small eucalyptus tree to gain more room for edible plants to bring to the cafeteria. Andrea is planting two rows for the spring harvest, so she will be able to contribute even more food to the cafeteria line. She is developing a system and recording her ideas and plantings to make it an easy transition for the next volunteer to take over in 2022, when her youngest child graduates from Gullett. She is actively looking for a volunteer to train and take over the garden.

The response from the students has been more than encouraging. Many students are trying vegetables that they haven't tried before because of the Gullett gardening program. A third grade student, H.S., said, "I love the veggie dippers on the lunch line!" Andrea said that the cafeteria manager has been supportive of the program, too.

Andrea would love to have more adult help in the garden. Ms. Deitrich's fourth-grade class and garden parents are going to help her regularly too, because their classroom garden is so shady. Summer help would be greatly appreciated. Summer volunteers would have some harvesting privileges. For any food that is an extra harvest, Andrea has found a nearby soup kitchen that is excited to utilize the produce.

Andrea's efforts are greatly recognized and appreciated on campus. She became a Travis County Master Gardener in 2019. Andrea grew up in Canada, and still greatly enjoys our mild Texas winters. She is still amazed by all of the plants that will grow here in the winter season. One of her favorite plants to grow is purple peas. These can easily be seen growing right by the fence line. Gullett is lucky to have her.

Please join your Allandale Neighbors at It's My Park Day on March 7, either at Gullett from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, or at Northwest Park. Also, stop by the Gullett plant sale on March 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The plant sale will include Allandale-grown vegetable starts and Texas perennials. Also on the 28th, we are trying out a plant swap. So come by with something to trade, and come look at what others have brought. ⌘



BUG OFF! Fruit Flies

Wizzie Brown

Fruit flies can become a nuisance problem at any time of year. They can enter homes via ripe fruits or vegetables picked from the garden or purchased at the grocery store. Fruit fly adults may also fly into homes from outdoors.

Adult fruit flies are small (about 1/8 of an inch) and often have red eyes. The front portion of the body is tan, while the back portion is dark brown to black. If given the opportunity, females can lay up to 500 eggs. Larvae are surface-feeders on fermenting foods or other organic matter, which means that you can cut off the overripe parts of the fruit or vegetable and eat the rest.

To prevent bringing fruit flies into your home, do not purchase over-ripened fruit and vegetables. Eat fresh produce in a timely manner, and store items in the refrigerator or a paper bag that is clipped closed. All recyclables should be rinsed thoroughly before placing them into the recycling bin. Recycling and garbage bins should be cleaned on a regular basis with soapy water to eliminate any spilled material.

If your home already has fruit flies, locate all sources of infestation (where the larvae are living) and eliminate them. Insecticides only target adults and will not control the problem. While searching and eliminating breeding sources, a trap can be constructed to capture adult flies. Create a paper funnel by rolling paper and taping it closed. Place the funnel into a jar that has a small amount of apple cider vinegar in the bottom.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at (512) 854-9600. Check out my blog at *www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com*

This work is supported by Crops Protection and Pest Management Competitive Grants Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27188 /project accession no. 1013905] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

JOIN ANA

ANA Executive Committee Meetings

Held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. & are open to the public. Join us!
Northwest Recreation Center
2913 Northland Drive

Allandale Eating

Robert E. Mace, Dining from Daugherty

There's been a lot stewing in the Allandale-area food scene lately. Backspace, the downtown pizzeria offshoot of Parkside, is opening an outpost on 1794 West Anderson Lane. They will be firing up Neapolitan pies sometime soon. In other pizza news, Austin's Pizza took over the spot formerly held by Brooklyn Pizza at Little Woodrow's Burnet Road location. Another switcheroo happened when Far East Sports Bar replaced Street underneath Chinatown at 3407 Greystone Drive. And Tatsumi will take over the ever-changing Red Pepper space on Anderson Lane. Also closing is the world-class Teo Espresso, Gelato, and Bella Vita on West 38th Street, due to rising rents. Not surprisingly, with the closure of Noble Sandwich Co., Spun Ice Cream closed.

Trudy's has sadly been struggling, filing for bankruptcy to pay its employees. Trudy's quality has been up and down lately, but we have many good memories there and hope it makes it.

Restaurant announcements for the controversial The Grove development on the south side of the neighborhood are starting to drop with Rise, a Dallas soufflé spot, announced in January.

Honest Mary's, fast-casual grain bowls (review this issue), just opened in late January, as did Happy Chicks (also reviewed this issue). We're still waiting for Tony C's, Tea Amo, and Pho Saigon to open. Hopsquad opened in the Burnet-Braker Beer District with the Tsuke Honten omakase trailer. And if you've been wishing for a hair-of-the-dog at the First Watch breakfast and brunch spot, wish no more: First Watch now serves cocktails during its weekend brunches. And introverts will rejoice with the inclusion of Allandale in the territory of delivery-only Tso Chinese Delivery where you use an app to order and track delivery Uber-like, with no tips accepted (read the full review at austinwanderlist.com).

The Texas Craft Beer Report by Hopalytics ranked Pinthouse Pizza as the second-best brewpub in Texas, right after the iconic Jester King. The Austin American-Statesman named Barley Swine as one "Austin's Most Important and Influential Restaurant Openings of the Past Ten Years." Eater Austin named dipdipdip tatsu-ya their restaurant of the year. Eater Austin also helpfully listed the Allandale Salad at Cover 3, the Rainbow at Baby Greens, the Chef at Little Deli & Pizzeria, and the Country Club Fancy Chicken at Jack Allen's as among the "19 Resolution-Friendly Healthy Salads in Austin." Eater Austin also named the enchiladas around the corner at the Dart Bowl as one of "Austin's Most Iconic Dishes" and Yard Bar as serving up creative nonalcoholic cocktails. And Austin Monthly included Lala's and The Little Longhorn Saloon among "The 40 Best Bars in Austin."

Happy Chicks

On their website, Happy Chicks hosts a Yelp review from Larry W. that says, "These are, hands down, the absolute best chicken tenders I've ever had in my life!" I don't know Larry W., how old he is, how many different chicken tenders he's eaten, or his favorite beer, but when I tried Happy Chick's chicken tenders, I realized that Larry is a wise, wise man. Indeed, these are the best damn chicken tenders I've ever noshed. If chicken tenders could wear angel wings, these would have 'em. The chicken is supple, juicy, and (cough, cough) tender, while caped in a perfectly crunchy and savory exterior,

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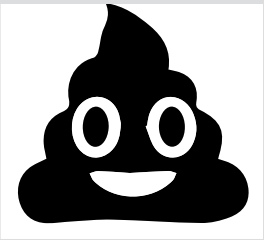

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each piece miraculously bearing the pull-apart and crispy tension of the perfect fry.

If you go for the Happy Chick (three tenders, one happy sauce, roasted cream corn, and fries; $10), you also get the fries (an angrier version of Hyde Park's delightful fried spuds) and the honest-to-goodness roasted cream corn. The bacon mac & cheese ($3) was fine but more arm candy than tongue dancer. There are 15 fresh-made happy sauces to choose from for dipping, including raspberry chipotle, avocado poblano, chipotle ranch, and country gravy. Not on the online menu is the Chick's entry to the fried chicken sandwich wars, with an expertly fried chicken breast (with lettuce, chopped pickles, happy sauce, and fries; $10); however, because of that beautiful tender-crunchy tension, the sandwich turns into a sloppy, napkin-heavy wrestling match. My one complaint is that the spicy versions of their fare had me wondering if I had been mis-served because there was nary a flicker or reddening of heat on my orders. Perhaps my tongue is as dead as I am inside, but, having fought to the eternal darkness with a spicy chicken tender at Tumble 22, these Happy Chicks need to get Angry.

Chicken fingers, fries, cream corn, and mac-n-cheese from Happy Chicks.

When I first walked into Happy Chicks, I wondered: "Does Burnet Road really need another chicken joint?" After trying these glorious chicken tenders, the answer is an emphatic "Yes!" With Happy

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Chicks joining Lucy's Fried Chicken, Tumble 22, Flyrite Chicken, and Top Notch, perhaps we need to name that stretch Burnet Brooders, Gizzard Grove, Rooster Row, or "Down" Town.

Happy Chicks, 6425 Burnet Road, (512) 467-4209, *www.happychicks.com*, full color review at *www.austinwanderlist.com*

Honest Mary's

If you're still honoring your New Year's resolution to eat healthier this year, then Honest Mary's on Burnet Road opened just in time for your beltline! Honest Mary's focuses on healthy grain bowls that have no refined sugars nor artificial ingredients and are organic and antibiotic and hormone free. Furthermore, Mary's focuses on the fast in fast casual; you can order one of six pre-ordained signature bowls or build your own bowl with staples and seasonal ingredients. A recent visit at 11:30 a.m. had me at my table with a bowl in five minutes.

I heartily recommend designing your own bowl, Chipotle-style, so you get what you want (just make sure you top it all for an extra buck with Crispy Chickpeas). Designing your own bowl appears, at first, to be a bit daunting, but Mary's makes it easy: (1) choose your protein [chicken, beef, poke, tofu, or veggie] (2) choose a base [rice, quinoa, spinach, or arugula] (3) choose market sides [a deliciously long list of veggies] (4) add toppings [another deliciously long list], and (5) choose a sauce [cashew lime cream, lemon garlic, apple cider vinaigrette, spicy peanut, sesame vinaigrette, chimichurri, ginger chile sriracha, or green herb sauce]. Be brave. There are no wrong decisions here. Let your chosen flavor profiles wash over you. Depending on what you choose, you have vegan, paleo, gluten-free, and dairy-free options. Standard bowls (no extra ingredients) range from $10 to $13. Mary's provides house-made agua frescas (with refills!), kombucha on tap, and some beer and wine. Be sure to check out their gluten-free and dairy-free Almond Butter Cookie (with Maldon salt; $3.25): chewy, crunchy, with eating-it-off-the-back-of-the-log-cabin flavor. And bring the plastic: Honest Mary's is cashless.

A self-engineered grain bowl from Honest Mary's

Started by locals Nelson and Mary Monteith, their goal was to create fast food that was healthy, something that is largely absent in the briskety wasteland of Texas. In this, they have succeeded. The bright and cheery spot on Burnet Road with a patio is their second location, following their debut in the Arboretum. Here's to hoping they open many more.

I do have one question: If Mary is honest, what, then, is Nelson?

Honest Mary's, 4800 Burnet road, (512) 220-0269, *www.honestmarys.com,* full color review at *www.austinwanderlist.com* ⌘

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Gullett Good News

The Year is Born Anew at Gullett Elementary

Gwynne Ellen Ash

In the autumn, our Geckos bid a sad farewell to their beloved guinea pig, S'more, who died after a short illness. This January, Brownie, the remaining guinea pig, got a new roommate, Licorice. But Licorice had a surprise for everyone! Two guinea piglets (technically, they are called pups) were born soon after Licorice arrived. The pups are being cared for off-campus with their mother and are yet to be named. What a way to start 2020!

Gullett students are currently participating in the BookSpring Readathon, Read a Book, Own the Galaxy 2020. The Readathon is celebrating its 15th year; from January 24th through February 9th, students read as many minutes as they can, collect donations from family and friends, and win great prizes! Through the Readathon, our student readers help BookSpring fill bookshelves with wonderful children's books to be shared with kids and families in need in 80,000 homes throughout Austin and Central Texas. At press time, Gullett Elementary is topping the fundraising leaderboard. *www.bookspringreadathon.org*

Geckos welcome the Scholastic Book Fair for a week in February. Elephants, Tigers, and Books, Oh My! is the theme, and a bevvy of books will be on parade. The book fair will be in the Library from Monday, February 17 through Friday, February 21. Monday the 17th is a teacher conference day, and the book fair will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the fair will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday has extended hours, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (during Curriculum Night). Then on Friday the 21st, the last day's hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Flyers will be coming home with students soon, and the book fair is open to the public.

VIVA Gullett!, the silent auction and fun night-out fundraiser, is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at Easy Tiger at The Linc. Tickets will go on sale soon for the adult event that includes an online silent auction, live in-person auctions, dancing, drinking, and diversion! The VIVA Gullett! planning committee is still gathering donations for the auction, so if you have a free weekend at your ski condo (or other auction-able items) be sure to contact chairs Lee Phillips and Lynsey Mays or other VIVA Gullett! committee members at vivagullett@gmail.com. And show up and bid on all the great items donated by people and businesses that support Gullett.

Thank you for supporting Gullett Elementary, our school in the heart of Allandale!

Important Dates for GECKOS

Monday-Friday, February 17-21: Scholastic Book Fair: Elephants, Tigers, and Books, Oh My!
Thursday, February 20: Curriculum Night
Monday-Friday, March 16-21: Spring Break
Saturday, April 18: Viva Gullett! (silent auction), Easy Tiger at The Linc

For more information, always go to *https://gullettgeckos.com/* ⌘

All About Lamar

Rick Schumacher

Hello, Scotties! Wow! We are on the downhill side of this middle school year. Congratulations on successfully navigating the ins and outs of this journey. I am feeling pretty proud of just getting the girls to school on time. It has been interesting to cede some of the decision-making responsibilities to my daughter this year. It is amazing to see her rise to the challenge. One cool idea she implemented is having two backpacks, one for A days and another for B days. It has helped her in making sure that she has the right work for the classes of the day. Impressive, right? She is also using calendars on her phone and on her wall to keep track of important dates and assignments.

Over the next month, there are several key dates that we, as parents, should be keeping track of. Luckily, we don't have to do any important school assignments. Of course, the biggest dates are spring break. We will be off from March 16 through March 20. Please be extra cautious while driving around Allandale, as there will be more kids playing in the neighborhood.

After spring break, time is going to be speeding up at Lamar. April and May are in sight, and we will be closing the school year before we realize it. April 10 is also a day off at Lamar for staff development. The month of May will be a rush of end-of-year exams and projects, culminating on May 28, the last day of the school year. Keep your eye on the Lamar website for a host of upcoming and end-of-year activities. Additionally, consider attending the next Lamar PTA general meeting on May 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lamar library.

Finally, I want to extend a warm welcome to our new principal, Megan Tesano. Most currently the Academic Director at Anderson High School, Ms. Tesano earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin, and a Master of Education Administration degree from Concordia University in Austin. We welcome Ms. Tesano to Lamar, and hope for her continued success at the helm of our great school. ⌘

It's Knight Time – McCallum Updates

Kristin Knifton

Principal Hosack invites all Mac parents, guardians, and supporters to join her for the monthly "Coffee with the Principal" events, held from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the McCallum library. Upcoming dates are February 28, March 27, and April 24. Come and learn about everything McCallum!

Parents and families of seniors, please take note of the graduation date: Thursday, May 28, at 1:00 p.m. at the Frank Erwin Center. This is the last day of school, but seniors will have completed their final exams earlier. Stay tuned for announcements regarding the Fine Arts Academy convocation and school-wide baccalaureate. Plans for Project Graduation are underway, which provides a fun-filled, drug- and alcohol-free event so that grads can safely celebrate their accomplishments and spend one last night together as a class. A small group of parents are raising funds so that all students can attend. Please consider donating at *https://macgradwebsite.wixsite.com/redesign*. All donations are tax-deductible.

Eighth-graders interested in trying out for the Blue Brigade dance team, please take note of a pre-tryout clinic to be held March 30 through April 1, with tryouts on April 2. Girls and boys are all welcome on the team. Please contact the Mac office for more information!

MACares is currently accepting donations of gently used formal wear for both girls and boys, for a free giveaway event on Thursday, April 2 and Friday, April 3. This annual event is for students to "shop" for free formal wear for prom and other banquets. Donations may be dropped off at the school office, or contact Kristin Knifton at kristin78756@yahoo.com for pickup. MACares also has a sign-up online for volunteers to supply dinner for approximately 15 students and teachers who participate in the evening credit recovery program, AKA "Twilight." For more information and to sign up, please visit *https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0948aeab28a57-meals*

There are waaaayyy too many athletic and fine arts events to list here. Please check the Mac website's calendar for a full update as to what is going on.

Upcoming dates:

February 17: Student holiday
February 28: Coffee with the Principal 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. in the library
March 2: CAC meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the library and PTSA meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library
March 7: Project Graduation mattress sale in the cafeteria (all day)
April 6: CAC meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the library and PTSA meeting at 6:30 in the library
April 10: Student holiday
April 25: Prom

As always, to get more frequent updates about MAC happenings, you may check the website (mccallumhs.com), the award-winning Mac Journalism online at macshieldonline.com, or follow Mac Journalism on Instagram. For sports events, go to: https://mccallumhs.com/events-calendars/. For Fine Arts Academy events, go to: https://mccallumhs.com/fine-arts-academy/. ⌘

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Neighborhood Watch: LOCK, TAKE, HIDE

Julie Peckham

Preventing Car Break-ins

Although Allandale remains a very safe neighborhood to live in, car break-ins happen regularly. There are some steps you can take to cut down or eliminate the chances that this will happen to you at your home, or wherever you are parked and away from your car.

- **Do not leave valuables in your car, and do not leave them in sight.** Purses left on the front car floor, laptops left on a seat, and purchases left in view are all things that tempt someone looking for a quick smash, grab, and run.
- **Installing a motion sensor light** could be a deterrent to a break-in if you leave your car(s) parked in your driveway.
- **Park in your garage, if possible.** You will be less likely to have your car broken into if it is contained.
- **Lock your car ALL the time when it is parked, and roll up all windows.**
- **Park in well-lit areas.** Even if you have to walk a little extra, a break-in will be less likely than a car parked in the shadows.
- **Tint windows** to make contents less visible.
- **Don't leave nice clothing visible.** That gorgeous coat over the seat or your fancy running shoes on the floorboard are temptations. Cover or keep out of sight.
- **Invest in an anti-theft system.**
- **Car stereos are the most common item stolen from a car.** Make your stereo less appealing by removing the faceplate, or put the whole unit in the glove box.

Our local police officers also shared the following tips: You should always report any burglary, even if someone rifled through your unlocked car and didn't take anything. APD determines patrol routes based on where crime is happening. If they think there hasn't been any crime in an area, they move patrols elsewhere. Call 311 or use the Austin 311 app. With the app, you can take a photo of the problem and it will ping the coordinates so officers can find the site. Also, if you have Ring (Neighbors app by Ring) or security camera footage of a crime, officers want it. They have caught criminals this way before.

Not-so-fun fact: 60% of guns used in shootings have been stolen from a vehicle or residence and were not locked up!

Our APD District Representative is: Officer Doug Ellis, douglas.ellis@austintexas.gov, (512) 974- 5736

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Allandale Real Estate Roundup

Debbie Trominski, REALTOR, Broker Associate

There is a theory of "multiple discovery," where people who are not in contact with each other independently have the same idea at the same time. I suppose it's because it's an idea whose time has come and the idea, not wanting to leave anything to chance, gives a few people an opportunity to put it into action. Last fall, I had an idea to give Allandale a gift. This awesome neighborhood has been good to me and my family, as we have enjoyed the parks, pool, trails, and schools for nearly 15 years. The gift was to create a neighborhood gathering where we can enjoy the treasure that is Northwest Park, keep the kids busy, and mingle with our neighbors. Enter the first ever Allandale Egg Hunt! When I approached my amazing contact with the neighborhood association, she quickly put me in touch with the association's social committee who were also thinking about hosting an egg hunt. It was multiple discovery at its best! Together we are putting on the Allandale Egg Hunt that I am proud to sponsor. It will take place on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park, near the playgrounds. Grown-ups get treats too, with donuts and coffee that will be provided. We will have a two-legged "bunny" for photos and hugs with the kiddos of all ages.

While we are at the egg hunt sipping coffee, I imagine there will be conversations about home prices in our neighborhood. According to the Austin Board of Realtors, they are climbing full steam ahead. Over the last twelve months, as of December 2019, Allandale home prices averaged out at $724,196. That's up from $638,635 in 2018 and $623,690 in 2017. Meanwhile, the number of days homes are on the market, on average, has declined from 36 days in 2017 to 32 in 2018, and remained flat for the past 12 months. The number of homes sold dropped from 152 in 2018 to 133 in the past 12 months. The number of closed sales was down 9% in December 2019, compared to December 2018. The decline in number of homes sold is due to lack of inventory; nobody wants to leave, I suppose! ⌘

JOIN ANA

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allandaleneighbor.com

Scouts Help Clean Up Shoal Creek

Julie Peckham

Late January, seven girls from Girl Scout Troop 1859 representing Gullett Elementary, Lamar Middle School, Kealing Middle School, and The Ann Richards School For Girls, plus two of their moms joined me to help clean Shoal Creek of trash from the footbridge at Northwest District Park north to the Greenlawn Parkway bridge. We found lots of clothing in the creek along with the trash, plus some other "treasures," including a *Breaking Bad* DVD and a music box, among other items. Thank you, Troop 1859, for taking the time to get trash out of the creek, for working so hard, and for being so pleasant. ⌘

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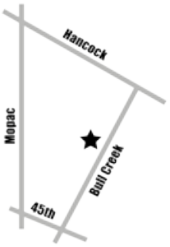


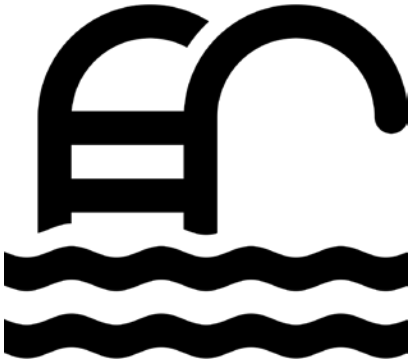
Swimming Pool Replacement Part 3

Steve Johnson

This is the third and final part of a series on public swimming pool replacement.

In part 1 (October 2019), we discussed what it means for a pool to fail. It's a balancing act between the cost of repairing the issue and replacing the entire pool. Sometimes, particularly when a pool leaks a lot, it makes more sense to replace the pool. Chapter 6 of the Austin Aquatic Master Plan defines a sustainability measure that guides the department in determining when a pool should be considered for closure.

In part 2 (December 2019), we discussed where the money comes from, site development, and approval by the City Council.



This part covers the process of replacing the pool after the first two steps have been taken. We're not to that point yet with Northwest Pool but it will happen sometime in the future.

Demolition

As painful as it might seem, almost everything, without exception, is demolished and removed when a pool is replaced; very little, if anything, can be reused. Between the age of the current structures and the changes in codes, especially the Americans with Disabilities Act, the city is forced to remove it all.

The question everyone in Allandale is bound to ask is, "What happens to the $375,000 in improvements we made to Northwest Pool in 2016?" The answer is, it all goes away with the rest of the pool.

Why is that not a bad thing? In 2016, Northwest Pool could have been closed indefinitely because of severe issues, including leaking, and there was no bond money to replace the pool. By investing "a little" in the pool, the city has bought us another three years and counting.

We might be able to be reuse the pump motors purchased in 2018 for Northwest Pool.

Reconstruction

Reconstructing a pool takes at least a year, and possibly two years. A lot depends on what the City finds when they demolish the old site, and how many unforeseen conditions, including rain, occur during the reconstruction.

The city recently implemented a more streamlined permitting process, so the Aquatics department meets with Permitting once a month and can solve issues more quickly.

When a pool is replaced, we'll get the following benefits:

- More energy-efficient pump motors
- Monitor exact use of wastewater so no averaging needed
- Smart monitors that keep track of pool chemistry and can automatically adjust it remotely
- No emptying of the pool in the winter; this helps the pool shell and prevents shifting, which can damage the pipes.
- ADA-compliance, especially zero-depth entry and changing rooms

Questions about this article? Send them to *allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com* ⌘

Join Your Neighbors in Our Great Outdoors

Parks Committee Supports Ongoing Restoration Efforts And Envisions a Park for Future Generations

Northwest Park turns 65 this summer. The visionaries who promoted the purchase of 30 acres of land in 1955 for a proposed park in Northwest Austin "saw possibilities."

Their plans included picnic grounds, a swimming pool, tennis courts and baseball field, and Beverly Sheffield, Recreation Director at the time (and current park namesake) suggested a duck pond that could be supplied by wells.

Even after the entire park was re-engineered in 1984 to handle storm surges like the raging flood waters that ravaged Austin in 1981, the park maintained the essential elements of that original plan.

New Master Plan on the Horizon

Today's park planners agree that it's time for an updated vision. A new master plan for Northwest Park was expected by 2019, but has been delayed due to a dam restoration project.

Repairs to the dam (levee) that runs along Shoal Creek could impact the entire park, which serves as a stormwater detention facility. Project planning will take up to five years before work begins.

While overseeing dam restoration, the city's Watershed Protection department will coordinate development of a new park master plan with Parks and Recreation.

Improvement Efforts Continue

ANA continues to support efforts to maintain and improve Northwest Park. Recent ANA-promoted enhancements include re-surfacing the tennis and basketball courts and new shade structures in those areas. Picnic tables and new grills were added. Last year, volunteers power-washed pool changing rooms, replaced shower curtains and painted key areas. Mulch replenishment on the trails is ongoing.

Your Input Is Important!

Developing a master plan – and implementing it – will take time. You can help develop a vision for the park that will best serve its users, and ANA will work to represent your interests.

There's already a growing list of suggestions, and we plan to conduct another survey to capture your current ideas. Stay tuned!

Girl Scout Troop 1859, representing Gullett, Lamar, Kealing, and The Ann Richards School For Girls, plus two scout moms and ANA Parks Committee member Julie Peckham, did an amazing job clearing trash along Shoal Creek from the park's footbridge north to the Greenlawn bridge. On January 25th, they removed lots of clothing and "treasures" including a Breaking Bad DVD and a music box. Thank you Troop 1859 for being so pleasant and working so hard to remove 16 bags of trash from the creek!

It's My Park Day

Pick your project and join in the fun as we work to improve our park and trails on **Saturday, March 7, 9 am – noon.**
Volunteer Registration Opens Thursday, February 6
https://austinparks.org/its-my-park-day/
Online pre-registration is required so we'll have enough tools, t-shirts, and snacks on hand (parents must register children).

NORTHWEST PARK - PLANT, MULCH AND LEARN!

Help spread mulch for our Spring trails refresher! We'll also prep and plant native grasses for erosion control on the hill south of the basketball court.
Wear sturdy shoes and gloves. Tools will be available, but extra shovels and steel rakes are helpful.

KIDS ACTIVITIES – NEW!

Interactive learning projects guided by ANA's Social Committee with activity kits provided by Keep Austin Beautiful include: making "Seedballs" with clay, soil and native seeds; building imaginative structures with "Loose Parts" of natural materials; and "Biodiversity Quadrats" nature study focusing on biodiversity in 1-foot square areas. **Ages 4-9.**
NORTHWEST PARK meeting location: parking lot near the pond**.**

LIGUSTRUM-B-GONE at Allandale Shoal Creek Greenbelt

Join us to remove invasive ligustrum and help restore this greenbelt to a healthy riparian grow zone. Eliminating invasives ensures the survival of native trees, grasses, and wildflowers. Please note age restriction: teens & older. It's wild out here! Wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, and closed toe shoes. Meet at the benches on Shoal Creek Blvd. directly across from Shady Oak Ct. (5600 block Shoal Creek)

AMPLIFY AUSTIN
Pond Restoration Fundraiser

March 5 – 6, 6 pm – 6 pm

Please support efforts to restore the pond and help us gain APF matching funds! **THANK YOU!** ANA Parks Committee and Friends of Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park
www.facebook.com/northwestdistrictpark/
Amplify Austin – www.amplifyatx.org

Burnet Road Bursting: From Mom and Pop to Metropolitan

John E. Byers

Retirement was looming in 2015 for Dr. Pat Witherspoon, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas at El Paso. She had made the decision to return home to Austin, where she had grown up in Allandale, a few blocks west of Burnet Road on Shoalwood Avenue.

She recalled vividly, "Burnet Road was our entire world as teenagers! We went to school at Lamar Junior High (MS), we had our hair done at one of the many beauty salons, my mom could shop at three grocery stores, we bought all our clothes at Yarings, and best of all, Kirschner's Fried Chicken was just down the street on Burnet! "

Today, a consumer can have almost every household need filled along the four-mile stretch of Burnet Road from West 45th Street north to Research Boulevard. A great variety of nearly 200 businesses operate along Burnet Road. Prior to 2000, the majority were well-known "mom and pop" family businesses whose owners often lived in the adjoining neighborhoods.

McNair's Appliances, the Night Hawk Frisco restaurant, Broz's Gulf gas station at Justin Lane, and Home Lumber were among those that thrived for over four decades. Those have all faded away. Frank Bomar's father founded Home Lumber in 1946. They built a going concern by supplying the hustling homebuilders and developers who created the large subdivisions of Rosedale, Allandale, Brentwood, and Crestview from the 1930's through the 1980's. CubeSmart, a national storage chain, supplanted the distinctive Home Lumber shop with a glassy, three-story, climate-controlled structure a few years ago.

Just north on Burnet Road, at the intersection with West Koenig Lane and Allandale Road, the City of Austin's transportation department recorded an average daily car count in 2018 of over 45,000, a total for all four directions. Many of those drivers are either heading west to MoPac Boulevard or turning in to the H.E.B. parking lot. H.E.B. has operated at the southwest corner since 1950 in the Allandale Village Shopping Center, and still remains the "hub" of activity on Burnet Road. The Northwest Shopping Center, across Burnet Road, opened in 1949. Utilitarian in design, with 20 lease spaces and ample parking, it is very rare to see a "For Lease "sign there, despite it being one of the oldest of the 23 commercial strip centers on Burnet Road. Experienced leasing agents active on Burnet Road reported that in 2019, the lease rate rose steadily to the range of $24 - $28 per square foot, before leveling off.

Keeping pace with the escalating traffic

February is American Heart Month

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and rent costs is the Travis Central Appraisal District's property tax assessment rate on both lots and buildings on Burnet Road. Mike Gordon, a McCallum High School graduate, set up his respected shop, Gordon Automotive, in 1966. "But, man, when my annual tax bill climbed north of $45,000," Gordon finally accepted a substantial purchase offer from an out-of-state developer for the tract just south of the Waterloo Ice House restaurant. He moved south a few blocks, and relocated the shop on Buell Avenue, happy being just a short distance "off Broadway. "

The hugely popular Yard Bar dog park truly captures the twenty-year transformation of Burnet Road, a virtual "Line of De-Barkation ." It opened in 2015 on the former site of the Putt-Putt Golf & Games miniature golf course and park. Boisterous teenagers sporting flattop and pageboy haircuts roamed the course, trying to roll the neon-yellow golf balls into a nostril of the jumbo Bevo hole, or rap them through the moving wooden fins on the windmill hole.

Today, the largely millennial-aged patrons unleash their dog(s) to romp about a 20,000 square foot, fenced playground, while the owners relax with a $9 White Russian drink in hand and socialize with old and new friends. Loyal patrons pay a nominal fee of $20 per month for one dog. The bubbly concept creator, Kristen Heaney, is quick to note that there is a separate dining patio, especially for guests younger than 21. The Yard Bar food menu is broader than expected, and does a brisk business.

A year-end 2019 tally of the primary business categories along Burnet Road listed this breakdown:

- 55+ Restaurants /hamburgers /fast food drive-thru /Mexican food /food truck & trailers
- 28 Automotive repairs /tires & alignment / State inspection / lube /window tint /air conditioning
- 26 Beauty salon/day spa/nails/barber shop & haircut / massage
- 5 major automobile dealerships, including Infiniti and Mazda.

Roger Beasley was awarded one of the very first North American Mazda dealerships in 1971, and has remained on Burnet Road, now on the east side, at Justin Lane. In recent years, he has invested in and been a force in some of the four- and five-story residential projects along the midsection of Burnet Road.

The newest entry into the strong Burnet Road dining market is a concept based in Pasadena, California, called KITCHEN: United Mix. Similar to trends in shared office space, the operation involves a series of shared use kitchens, a line-up of 10 to 12 established and emerging local restaurants, a sophisticated central POS system, and a fleet of drivers who deliver the well-packaged meals to diners waiting to eat at their own dining table. It will open at 8023 Burnet Road in late spring or early summer.

And Dr. Witherspoon? Despite her affinity for the old Allandale neighborhood, after viewing the daily traffic backups (up to 250 cars heading south at 7: 30 a.m.) and aware of the rising tax bills, she did find just the right home -- in Cedar Park, Texas ! ⌘

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS!

To subscribe to our online discussion group, send an e-mail to:
allandale-neighborhood-austin+subscribe@groups.io
with "subscribe" as the subject.

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Or join online via *www.allandaleneighbor.com*

I am willing to serve on the following committees: ❑ Bylaws ❑ Communications ❑ Finance ❑ Membership
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